

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR UPDATING  
UNIVERSAL REMOTE DATABASES THROUGH TV VBI PROCESSING

Abstract

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Universal remote control device database is updated  
through television video blanking interval (TV VBI) or  
sub-picture signal processing. As relayed through TV  
receiver, remote control database(s) is placed in VBI or  
sub-picture of video signal of specialized program. Data is  
decoded by VBI slicer or controller (e.g., MPEG decoder),  
then extracted and stored temporarily in memory. Upon  
request, data is transmitted via infra-red (IR) or radio-  
frequency (RF) emitter to learning remote control device,  
which downloads data to update remote programming  
protocol.

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